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East Germany

COUNTRY _____ REPORT _____

Dresden-Klotzsche Airfield

TOPIC _____

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EVALUATION _____

PLACE OBTAINED _____

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DATE OF CONTENT _____

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DATE OBTAINED _____

18 December 1953

DATE PREPARED _____

REFERENCES _____

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. Between 25 October and 20 November 1953, there was comparatively light air activity by Po-2s at Dresden-Klotzsche airfield. Between 11 a.m. and noon on 30 October, 3 Po-2s made local flights. At 9:30 a.m. on 31 October, 1 biplane was seen aloft. Between 8:30 a.m. and about 2 p.m. on 11 November, 2 biplanes made local flights. The planes were occasionally flying at low altitude

Between 11 a.m. and noon and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on 17 November, 1 and 3 Po-2s respectively made local flights. 1 the northern edge of the field, the landing field to as far as the repair hanger and the hanger at the eastern edge of the field no aircraft were parked there. No aircraft had been formerly observed there. 2

2. Practices by the air force driving school were observed between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 18 November and between 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 19 November. A convoy of three motor vehicles of the driving school which was also quartered in the Luftkriegsschule and the personnel of which wore red-bordered black epaulets was observed on 3 November.

3. On 3 and 4 November, the quartering building near the Hansa hangar was occupied by about 200 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. Between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. on 4 November, the 200 personnel fell in in two companies on the platform north of the quartering building. On 5 November, the soldiers were observed doing march practices north of the building. The soldiers wore coats and were unarmed. One officer and 2 or 3 NCOs were assigned to each company. Around 3:30 p.m. on 12 November, about 100 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were observed on the platform between the quartering building and the Hansa hangar. On 18 November, groups of soldiers drilled near the Hansa building. Between 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. on 19 November, individual advancing by bounds was

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

practiced at the landing field between the Hansa building and the western boundary. The soldiers were unarmed. [redacted] a course for basic training was held. At nightfall, all of the windows in the quartering building were lighted and [redacted] the beds in some rooms were arranged in tiers. 4

25X1

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4. There was no possibility to reconnoiter the airfield installations from the southeast because the terrain rises steeply at the edge of the landing field. The best possibilities for observing the landing field, the Hansa area and the hangars of the Luftkriegsschule was from a short stretch of a path leading along the outer side of the boundary of the landing field between the quartering building in the Hansa area and the inn. From that position, however, only the roofs of the hangars at the northern edge of the field were visible, because the terrain sloped to the northwest from the middle of the landing field. The path mentioned was open to traffic at all times, even when air activity by Po-2s was conducted, while it had been blocked previously when larger aircraft practiced flying. Also the path leading inside the boundary of the landing field from the inn to a point about 100 meters northwest of the terminal of the spur track via Raenitzer Muehe (hill) was usually open to traffic. From the end of the path there were good possibilities for observing the area in front of the hangars at the northern edge of the field.
5. There were no lighting facilities at the flying field. Red obstacle lights were observed on top of the quartering building in the Hansa area, on the roof of the inn and on two telephone poles south of the hangar at the eastern edge of the field. Several red lamps on top of the Hansa hangar were not in operation during air activity. Two strong white lamps were recently fitted at the western side of hangar No 4. These lamps were in operation every night and illuminated the area in front of the hangar in a wide circle.
6. A Dumbo-type radar set was located at the northern edge of the field about south of the westernmost hangar. 5
7. Apparently no zeroing in range was available at the field. The firing range east of Lockenberg (hill) was no longer in existence. [redacted] a temporary firing range was established in the southeastern corner of the Luftkriegsschule area because firing practices were repeatedly held there. [redacted] the embankment of the spur track was utilized as range butt. Units of the Luftkriegsschule also used a firing range located southeast of the tracks of the Klotzsche freight station.
8. Apparently no ammunition dump was available at the field. About 250 meters northwest of the Hansa hangar there was a small ammunition bunker in which the Lufthansa previously had stored signal and tracer ammunition. [redacted] the bunker was guarded by a sentry and the area was lighted at night. [redacted] also the Soviets stored ammunition there.
9. There was a fenced-in area at the western end of the spur track at the northern edge of the field. [redacted] this area was not utilized as fuel dump. Just east of the Hansa hangar, there was a small shed in which fuel drums were stored. The shed provided room for not more than about 20 drums. The installation was guarded by a sentry and lighted at night.

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- 3 -

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25X1

10. [redacted] a weather station was in the Hansa building because a cup anemometer was observed on the roof of the quartering building.
11. The field was only partially surrounded by a fence. There was a brick wall along Koenigstruecker Strasse while the remainder was a board fence.
12. Two buildings located at the western end of the spur track were lately used as barns. Two houses south of the hangar at the eastern edge of the field probably housed Soviet officers. Near the entrance to the Luftkriegsschule, garages and kennels were under construction. 2

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13. [redacted]
14. There was air activity by Po-2s at the field on some days between 18 October and 22 November. About 10 a.m. on 24 October, 8 Po-2s which apparently came from Klotzsche were seen aloft over Dresden. On 10 and 13 November, individual flights by Po-2s were made. In November, soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets and signal insignia and others with red-bordered black epaulets were repeatedly observed. 1

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1. [redacted] Comment. The unidentified air force unit stationed at Dresden-Klotzsche airfield continued to practice flying with Po-2s.

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2. [redacted]
3. [redacted]
4. [redacted] Comment. According to previous information, air force soldiers were quartered in the building mentioned. The new unit is unknown.
5. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] a Dumbo-type radar set in August and a Kniferest type set in September 1953 at the same location. According to the present report, a Dumbo-type radar set is now located there. [redacted] possibly erred when identifying the set as a Kniferest in September.

25X1

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